

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

DENNIS TOOLEY,)
an Individual,)
Plaintiff,) CASE NO.:
vs.)
PINNACLE ENTERTAINMENT, INC.,)
a Delaware Corporation,)
Defendant.)

)

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, DENNIS TOOLEY through his undersigned counsel, hereby files this Complaint and sues PINNACLE ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware Corporation for injunctive relief, attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12181 *et seq.*, ("AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT" or "ADA") and alleges:

JURISDICTION AND PARTIES

1. This is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12181, *et seq.*, (hereinafter referred to as the "ADA"). This Court is vested with original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343.
2. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) and E.D.Mo. L.R. 3 - 2.07.
3. Plaintiff, DENNIS TOOLEY (hereinafter referred to as "MR. TOOLEY"), is a resident of the State of Indiana in Johnson County.
4. Plaintiff, MR. TOOLEY, is a qualified individual with a disability under the ADA. MR.

TOOLEY suffers from Multiple Sclerosis, which causes severe nerve damage and affects his ability to walk and stand.

5. Due to his disability, Plaintiff MR. TOOLEY is substantially impaired in several major life activities and requires the use of mobility aids including a wheelchair, walker and/or a cane depending on his level of pain and fatigue on a daily basis.
6. Defendant, PINNACLE ENTERTAINMENT, INC., a Delaware Corporation, (hereinafter referred to as "PINNACLE" or collectively as DEFENDANT), is registered to do business in the State of Missouri. Upon information and belief, PINNACLE ENTERTAINMENT, INC., is the owner, lessee, and/or operator of the real property and improvements which are the subject of this action, to wit: the Property, River City Casino & Hotel, generally located at 777 River City Casino Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63125. Defendant is responsible for complying with the obligations of the ADA.
7. All events giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in the Eastern District of Missouri, Saint Louis City County, Missouri.

**COUNT I - VIOLATION OF TITLE III OF THE
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

8. Plaintiff realleges and reavers Paragraphs 1-7 as if they were expressly restated herein.
9. The Property, a hotel and casino, is open to the public and provides goods and services to the public.
10. Plaintiff MR. TOOLEY has visited the Property, generally located at 777 River City Casino Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63125 and attempted to utilize the facilities offered at the Property.

11. While at the property, MR. TOOLEY experienced serious difficulty accessing the goods and utilizing the services therein due to the architectural barriers discussed herein in paragraph 14 of this Complaint.
12. MR. TOOLEY continues to desire to visit the Property, but fears that he will continue to experience serious difficulty due to the barriers discussed in paragraph 14 which still exist.
13. MR. TOOLEY plans to and will visit the property in the near future to utilize the goods and services offered thereon.
14. Defendant is in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12181 *et seq.* and 28 C.F.R. § 36.302 *et seq.* and are discriminating against the Plaintiff due to Defendant's failure to provide and/or correct, *inter alia*, the following barriers to access which were personally observed, encountered and which hindered Plaintiff's access:
 - A. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible parking designated as accessible at the outdoor parking lot due to excessive long and cross slopes and due to obstructions located in access aisles;
 - B. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible curb ramps throughout the Property due to excessive long and cross slopes and steep side flares;
 - C. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible parking designated as accessible in the parking garage due to excessive long and cross slopes and some spaces lacked access aisles;
 - D. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible slopes throughout the Property due to excessive long slopes;

- E. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible entrances throughout the Property due to lack of level landings; and
 - F. Plaintiff encountered inaccessible counters throughout the Property due to excessive heights and lack of any lowered section.
15. To date, the readily achievable barriers and other violations of the ADA still exist and have not been remedied or altered in such a way as to effectuate compliance with the provisions of the ADA.
16. Defendant either does not have a policy to assist people with disabilities or refuse to enforce such a policy if it does exist.
17. Independent of his intent to return as a patron to the Property, Plaintiff additionally intends to return to the Property as an ADA tester to determine whether the barriers to access stated herein have been remedied.
18. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property is readily achievable, reasonably feasible and easily accomplishable without placing an undue burden on Defendant.
19. Removal of the barriers to access located on the Property would allow Plaintiff to fully utilize the goods and services located therein.
20. The Plaintiff has been obligated to retain undersigned counsel for the filing and prosecution of this action. Plaintiff is entitled to have his reasonable attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses paid by Defendant.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff demands judgment against DEFENDANT, and requests the following injunctive and declaratory relief:

- A. That the Court declares that the Properties owned and operated by DEFENDANT is in violation of the ADA;
- B. That the Court enter an Order directing DEFENDANT to alter the facility to make them accessible and useable by individuals with disabilities to the full extent required by Title III of the ADA;
- C. That the Court enter an Order directing DEFENDANT to evaluate and neutralize their policies and procedures towards persons with disabilities for such reasonable time so as to allow DEFENDANT to undertake and complete corrective procedures.
- D. That the Court award reasonable attorneys' fees, costs (including expert fees), and other expenses of suit, to the Plaintiff; and
- E. That the Court award such other and further relief as it deems necessary, just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

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